

Spain - Philip II. King 901.9.16

THE FLOWER DE LVCE.

Which conteyneth the discourse of a Frenchman deteyned in *Paris*, vppon the impieties and counterfeatings conteyned in the manifest of Spayne, published in the month of Ianuary. 1593.



Hetherto did I alwayes hope that shortly we should so open our eyes as we should neede no farther prouocation to stirre vpp our iust displeasure against the auncient and captiall enemies of the Flower de Luce, vntill being reassembled together vnder the French banner, we should passe ouer the *Pirinean* mountaines for the deliuey of the poore *Navarrean* slaues out of captiuitie, who doe stretch forth their armes to that mightye prince to whose God hath vouchsafed these two goodly crownes, the one by discent from his father, the other from his mother. But sith that after so many vaine hopes one in an others neck whereinto we haue beene forced in this towne of *Paris*, for the lulling a sleepe of our senses and the deceiuing of our extreame misery, we still in the end doe see that they from whome wee expected our felicity (as sometimes it hath fallen out, that such as haue bene authors of great mischiefes, haue also bene ministers of great remedies) sith I say that in lieu of acknowledging their lawfull king, they haue passed the pikes: and plunged themselves headlong in the horrible goulfe of Spanish bondage, I can no lenger keepe this long silence, for so long as we re-
teyne any sparke of the humoz of our auncient French liberty,

liberty, we cannot but send forth some speeches, some
sighe the testimonies of our intent. Before we giue
vppe the ghost we must euen with our bloud write this
our last testament for our posterity, to the ende they
may know that their auncesters were no such traytors
to their Princes, that voluntarily would suffer them-
selues to be chayned vppe vnder the locks of this cruell
and most barbarous nation.

O Innocent posterity, who in secret shall read these
last lamentations of your dying mother, euer more re-
member that your selues are discended of the race of
those who time out of minde, haue made other nations
of the earth to tremble, who haue passed the *Alpes*, and
the *Pirinean* mountaines, who haue sayled ouer euery
sea, to make their weapons to glister in the bowels of
forren empires: who neuer feared any thing except that
the sky should fall vpon them, as being assured to con-
quer and tame whatsoeuer vpon the face of the earth
durst medle with them. This onely remembrance
will so inflame your mindes with spite and rage, that
in time you shall gather strength, yea albeit all wea-
pons should fayle you, euen with your handes to stifle
these serpents who hauing once wretched you within
their traines will sucke forth the very marrow out of
your bones.

Neuer thinke deere children that those shamefull
couenants whereinto your parents are entered did
proceede of their voluntary good will, neither measure
the intent of a great nation according to the notable
wickednesse of a number of mutinous not frenchmen,
but bastards heere ingendred by Spanyardes: No it
is not to be thought that any so infamous or wretched
cogitation



cogitation could euer penetrate the harte of any man
descended of a perfect french race. I will not heere
bring into consideration the horrible cruelties that
haue dispeopled the Indians, in putting to death more
then remaineth vpon the rest of the face of the earth:
neither will I set before you the insatiable couetize
that hath dried vp the minds of Peru, and banished the
welthiest houses in Portugall and the Low countreyes,
all this becometh those that seeke to haue a stranger
to their maister, yet will they haue one that is tolle-
rable. France hath no skill in such a choyce: France
acknowledgeth none but her owne children, those
whome she hath suckled, nourished and brought vp in
her bosome, ouer whome shee commandeth, her king
only excepted, whome God hath made to be borne
the eldest of the most ancient, greatest and most flour-
ishing family in the world, that hath swaied the french
scepter so many yeares. France giueth eare to that on-
ly child whome she cherisheth, and loueth most ten-
derly, to whome she beareth an extraordinary affecti-
on, as accompting nothing difficult or dangerous that
may tende to the exalting of him aboue all other Prin-
ces of the earth. In him hath she shewed all her con-
tentation: her glory and maiestie are shadowed and
doe wholly glister in her eldest sonne, whose enterprises
may for a while so long as his mother sleepeth be some-
what slacke, but in the ende if she waken and that
the potion which by her enemies hath bene ministred
to lull her on sleepe, hath lost all force: when she re-
turneth to the knowledge of her selfe and beginnes to
stirre her benumbed armes, in how short space shall
we see all these spanish forces cut in pieces: all these
garrisons

garrisons of moores died in their obone bloud, the wo-
ful countenance of France changed into ioy and mirth,
and all these stormes driven away by the beautifull
beames of the sonne which shall restore vnto vs the
light some day of contentation and perfect liberty.
our churches shall not (as they seeke to perswade) be
desolate, but contrariwise they shall bee replenished
with that ancient multitude which vsually we haue
seene among vs. We all together shall render praise
to God for the felicity vnto vs granted, when round
about vs we shall behould not the Spanish insolencie
full of pompe and vanity, but the sweetnesse of our pa-
rents and the delightfome company of those that haue
bene borne in the same towne with vs. Oh happy
day, most prosperous and so long desired of all good
men in this poore towne, who groane vnder the bur-
den of forein domination with whom we may without
feare bewaile our passed calamities, reioyce our pre-
sent felicity, and still hope for a more full accomplish-
ment thereof.

Albeit our goods be wasted, and that we inioy but
even halfe a life euell compacted in a weake body, fal-
len away with extreame famine, yet may we at the
least speake bouldier: Our misery shall be at an ende,
and the affliction of things passed shall neuer be ag-
mented with feare of such as are to come. We shall no
longer see this proud Rodomontes presidents of the
counsails of the bastards of France: our eares shall not
be filled with their proud threates, & vaine bragges of
their mighty armies that should drive the warres a
hundred leagues from vs, winne so many fieldes and
cary our king into the Bastille.

Neuer

Nevertheless fith this day shall be so fortunate vnto vs, why doe not we endeavour to hasten it, even with the hazard of our liues: must the feare of death make vs shamefully and cowardly die for hunger, when otherwise we might with weapon be ranged of those that draw vs into these extremities, by making vs so obstinately to withstand our countrey and king? and yet doth the superfluity of their expenses evidently declare vnto vs, that with them this time is as easily overpassed, as to vs it is hard and intollerable. The great portions that they daily receiue from their good maister, causeth them to acknowledge him, and to terme him *The mightie king: the vniuersall king: the Catholicke king: the king of kings: the great Monarck, victorious both by sea and by land, and whatsoeuer other flattery may be inuented, they will heape vpon him in exchange of his Duckats.* What more assured testimony can we craue to proue that such people are no frenchmen? The *Achajans* being already entered into acknowledgement of the Romane empire *Aristanetus the Megapolitain* a man of great credit amongst them, on a time in open counsaile said that it were good to honour the Romans and not to shew any ingratitude toward them, wherevpon *Philopæmen*, a man who iustly was by the historians termed the last *Grecian*, hearing this speech, a while held his peace, but in the end so pressed with impaciencie and choller that he could no longer keepe silence said. *Aristanetus, why makest thou such hast to see the wretched destiny of Greece.* For these thirty yeares haue there bene among vs a generall complaint prosecuted not only by the nobility, but even by al men of courage, for the king of Spaine hath presumed to thinke to
cause

cause his Embassadors to take the precedence from ours. What frenchman hath not with iust indignation complained hereof? and yet now euen at once he that intituleth himselfe the pretector and lieutenant of the crowne, of the mightienesse and maiestie of France, hath shewed himselfe such a coward, or rather such a traytor, to terme the king of Spaine *the great king*, and in what comparison; but that the king of France must be little.

Why Charles of Lorraine, canst thou find any example that by letters patents sealed with the Flower de Luce the title of *Great* was euer attributed to any forreine kings, nay but contrariwise many times haue the fields flowed with blood for the preservation of the title of *Augustus* to the kings of France, the first, the ancientest and the most mighty princes in Christian-Dome, who doe inioy the crowne of liberty and glory aboue all other kings, yet now aloud publicquely in letters patents sealed with the Flower de Luce by thee falsified; thou callest the Spanyard, *the great king*, a title which in our fathers dayes would alone haue cost thee thy life. Why Duke of Mayenne, art thou in such hast to aduance the wretched destinies of France. He hast, sayst thou, succoured our Catholicke religion: nay, say, thy ambitious and the practizes of thy family against this estate. To the ende to vndermine a crowne of many yeares standing, and to lay hould againe vppon the sundrie vaine pretences euer since Charlemagne, by histories conuicted of falshood, as shewing that it is not past sixe score yeares since the race of *Vaudemont* entered into the house of Lorraine, which in lesse then 460. yeares haue fallen into seauen severall families: To strike,

strike, I say so great a stroke, to extinguish the blood
royall, and to stepe into their place, it is requisite to haue
great support and a woonderfull plausible pretence :
this forteresse is not to be assaulted with weake bat-
tery, considering that in such actions the lest errors are
so perilous. The support hath bene the king of *Spain*,
the ancient enemy to *France*, and one who by inheri-
tance purposeth to become Monarch ouer all Christi-
andome. The onely pretence any way to be taken,
was for religion, all others being farre to weake. Up-
on this ground haue they long since hired those whose
tongues haue bene saleable in the pulpits dedicated to
the truth, by whose meanes they haue cast vpon the
people al those charmes that haue brought this estate
so neere to destruction. Herevpon likewise haue they
long since sent the *Jesuites*, very *Spanish Colonies*,
who haue shed forth the popson of their conspiracy vnder
the shadow of holinesse, and vnder the colour of
confession (O woonderfull policie :) haue abused the
devotion of the *French* nation, whom by seceret othes
they haue bound to their league. who also in lieu of
instructing our people in the *Catholike* religion, are
become trumpets of warre, firebrands of sedition, pro-
tectors and defenders of murther and robbery, to be
bribe, who are wairen forrein leuine to sowre the dowe
of our *France* and to alter the fedility into trechery and
rebellion, so cunningly conducting their masters af-
fares that they haue filled this realme, before flouri-
shing, with fire and blood, and euen with the *French*
swords murthered so much braue and valiant nobility
as had bene of force and power sufficient to reconquer
Naples and *Millan* which this *Gothicke* race hath stol-

len from our fordfathers.

These cursed policies did long lie hidden, but at & last the war begun with all extremity about the yeare 85. against a most Catholicke king, and so acknowledged by those that most hated him, against a king yet in the flower of his age, together with the detestable murder committed vppon his person fower yeares after, haue too euidently declared this pretence of religion to be vtterly false and of no apparance. This cruell and horrible murder of their king hauing brought them into execration with all courageous persons, now to couer their subtilties vled in the compassing thereof, they doe in their Declarations giue out this impression to the people, that the kings death was a blow from heauen. Oh abhominable impiety? Oh mightie king, whome all the subtilties of thy enemies, who abusing thy authority and too much lenity were become masters of thy best crownes, could neuer stop from inclosing them in the capitall city of thy realme, where they found themselves brought into such extremitie, that without that knife forged in hell, they had bene already chastized for all their notable treasons, Oh mightie king, who couldest not haue any fuller confession of the victory, euen at thy enemies hands then the kinde of thy death, is it possible that thy subiectes, euen thy children who yet do speake the french language should endure this cruell parricide, the like whereof was neuer seene, neither any thing so detestable; which hath replenished all men with sorrow and teares, to bee termed a blow from heauen? O God who neuer without punishment, sufferest thy holy name to be abused in such and so horrible transgressions, canst thou permit the

the inuention, euen a blow of the diuel who tormenteth mankind to be attributed vnto thee, and that thou who art protector of kings shouldest be proclaimed their murderer? Suffer not O Lord such blasphemies, but with a stripe of thy mightie arme, euen a blow indeede from heauen, breake the cursed head of these traytors to their king, of these bloody paricides who seeke to couer their detestable conueration and conspi- racie vnder the bayle of thy holy name.

What an indignity is this, O ye french nation, that they, who impudent and shamelesse dare yet, though falsey, cause themselves to be called as you, should bewaile the death of the Duke of *Parma* whome they intitule of *happy memorie*, a title neuer publickely attributed to other but kings, and contrariwise with vs to beleeue our deceased king to haue bene such a one; that God who is all good, yea the fountaine of all goodnes hath caused the throat of his anointed to be cut; euen his who vpon his head did beare the chiefe crowne of all the nations that are baptized in his name. So that a petty forrein Prince, the vsurper of *Saint Peters* patrimony, is not onely compared with the king of France, with the king of the Flower de Luce, but is also magnified by the same tongue that blasphemeth against the memory of our deceased king. Yet were this tongue spanish in sound as it is in affection, it were the more tollerable, but a french tongue to be polluted with such impure speeches. Oh what an indignity? what a sorrow.

The reason of these so contrarie speeches is very apparant. The death of this *Farnese* who signed no otherwise but *Alexander*, haue giuen a great blow at

the affaires of this warre, as finding no successor that can approach to his reputation, so that for want of all others Don Philip hath bene constrained to set in such a Captaine as is not otherwise knowne but onely that he hath bene the chiefe executioner of the poore Indians, by him murthered without resistance, whome also the inhabitants of the country will not receiue as fearing his extreame cruelty. On the other side the *Guy-far-des* imagined that the death of the late king should haue brought them to the royalty, and that by their pollicies they should soone disunite vs each from other, making vs to beleue that no man can be a good Catholicke vnlesse he be a Spanyard or a Lorraine, vnlesse he weare the red crosse or the duble crosse. They haue aboute two yeares deteyned the people in Paris vpon an opinion that there was no masse said at *Tours* and haue drowned those that durst testefy y^e contrary. But sith all their purposes are grounde d vpon falshood, they be to be excused for the cruell punishmēt by them inflicted vpon those that testifie the trueth, their capitall enemy.

Many who since the death of our late king neuer liued in this city of *Paris*, may perhaps geue credite to this declaration by them published, namely that they haue labored to bring his Maiesty now raigning into the bosome of the Church: But we who for these foure yeares haue continually heard their Sermons doe know the contrary, also that they neuer preached vnto vs any thing so much, as that albeit hee should become as good a Catholike as *S. Lewes* (these bee their very wordes) the Curate of *S. Bennets* saide in *S. Mederickes*, as good a Catholicke as I take him to be, yet is hee by no meanes

meanes to be receiued, as being a Relaps and impenitent. Such as would seeme the mildest, said. that hee might be adimitted into the Church, but it was requisite, for pennance of his fault, that he should resigne his crowne to those that had reclaimed him. That hee might bee a Catholicke, but no king. Thirty thousand persons not onely haue heard but do daily heare these speeches from the mouthes of *Boucher* and *Comolet* the *Jesuites*, and yet would they faime perswade the rest of all France & they haue endeouored to conuert him. O ye hipocrites as you are, know you not in your consciences that you neuer desired his conuersion, but his estate, that you care not whether he haue a crowne in heauen, so you may get & which he hath vpon earth? Do not your consciences beare you witnesse that you could wish that tumultuously at his returne from some warlike exploit, he should enter into our church, to the end for euer hereafter he might be though an *Atheist*, vsing religion as a cloake to play his personage in, and so lose his credit with all Christian people. In your consciences doe you not know that of all things in this world, you must feare least in some lawfull counsell by the working of the holy ghost, his errors should be laid open before him? If you stand not in wonderfull feare therof, why do you so shrink away? why had you rather see all France on a flame and shortly brought into combustion, and so many miserable persons overwhelmed with the intollerable burden of these tedious warres, and brought into such pouerty, that their misery hath farre surmounted the misery of their frendes deceased? why I say had you not rather trie this remedie which only is proper, and hath bene practiced

tised by the ancient fathers in the cure of such diseases. A remedy often times reiterated for one selfe error, for the truth which is alwaies like it selfe in all places, and at all times, is neuer tyed to one onely counsell: A remedy that might serue not him onely, but all other of his religion. Why I say had you not rather vse this gentle and wholesome medecine, then fire and sworde whereto mans conscience is no way subiect, weapons doe neuer breed any conuerts, but rather deniers of their faith. To bodely vlcers bodely matters, and to the wounds of the spirite, spirituall remedies doe agree. To seeke by maine force to plucke vp error in religion, is to seeke to cure the soule by the body, nay rather to kil then to cure: by darkenesse to shew light, and by cruelty to teach clemency. If yee list to destroy error, it is requisite you should instruct the man, and the way to instruct is in a free counsell to heare his reasons, and to let him vnderstand yours.

Yet if God by the successe of your armies, would declare y^e same to be acceptable in his sight: If he would graunt you great aduantages ouer our king, and minister hope to force so many mightie to vnes, which do daily encrease and fortifie with the ruine and spoyle of our poore *Paris*, your heat to prosecute your warres might some way be excusable. But hauing vtterly lost a great and notable battaile, euen when yee were assisted with the power of *Spaine*, *Germany*, *Switzerland*, *Lorraine*, yea & the selfe same day as it were miraculosly hauing also lost a second battaile in *Anuergne*. Againe this last yeare the Duke of *Ioieuse* one of the principall pillars of the Spanish faction, beeing defeated and slaine in a pitched field with the losse of thre thousand men,

men, either drowned or left dead in the field, among
whome were found all the Capteines of the rebells
throughtout the whole country, wherebpon they were
forced to vncoule frier Angell, who in the end shall re-
ceiue like recompence for breaking his vow solemnly
made vnto God, as his brother had for violating his
faith to his king, who had so highly cherished and ex-
alted his ingratfull famely. Likewise in the same
moneth of October the generall of the armie of *Lor-
raine*, hauing lost both his owne life and his masters
armie, who were ouercome by a handfull of men, who
for 10000 accompted the Duke of *Bouillon* for their
head, of whose good fortune and aduancement, I
meruel not though the Duke of *Lorraine* his neighbour
maketh so many complaints, considering that in so
short space he hath already defeated him of two strong
townes & cut in peeces the flower of his men of war,
who now might haue stood him in some sted for the
defence of other his strong holds against 12000 men,
and 20 canons that doe lay sore to them. After I say
so many great losses, and all your great townes so
straightly beleeged, what hope can there remaine, es-
pecially this Alexander of *Parma* being no longer a
worlds man? True it is that hereafter we may per-
adventure haue some succour from the *Sauoyan*, who
will bring his great forces to assist his cunning to bee
crowned in our citie of *Paris*: for he hath married one
of the daughters of *Spaine*: and sith that by the aduice
of the Doctors of *Millan*, the Salicke law ought to suc-
cease, he hath no doubt a part in the succession: for at
Paris there is no prerogative of Elderthip amonge the
daughters, and therefore the towne may well enough
be

be deuided. Let the eldest chose either the Loure or the
Ballace, the one shall hold for *Sauoy*, the other for *Spaine*.
But I doubt he hath other matters to thinke vppon,
he seeth already the french ancients so forward toward
the midst of *Piedmont*, that thirty thousand canon shot
will hardly roote them out, and yet before he come to
that, he must winne the field against those that haue
profered him battaile any time these six monethes,
whome he dare not encounter in the plaine field with
al his owne power and the power of his father in law.
This is a very *Scipios* policie. Our king hath procu-
red the warre to be transported into *Affrica*, and the
firebrand thereof into the dominions of the Spaniard
and of his sonne in law, who already intituled him-
selfe Earle of *Prouence*, from whence he hath found one
of the heires of *Gaston of Foix* & of the valeant *Nogaret*,
that shall not onely expell him but also proceed further,
& evidently giue him notice of the old prouerbe which
saith. That *France* was neuer so weake but a man
might still find some cause of earnest fight, and that
either soone or late she will giue him to wit that it is
dangerous dealing with her.

Oh Ingratefull *Sauoyan*, among all earthly people
the most vnthankfull. *France* restored to thy mother,
that which with the swordes point and vppon good
cause she had taken from thy grandfather, and thou in
lieu of acknowledging this magnificence, and in all
manner of good duety, reuerencing the maiestie of the
french empire, dost by notable treasons endeuour to
rent and dismember the same, still conspiring with
her Capitall enemies. Remember that I doe progno-
sticate vnto thee, that a Spanish wife shall procure to
thee

thee the losse of that which a French wife brought to
thy father, nothing can defend thee. All the cunning
speech of the Archbishop of *Lions* together with the ab-
stract of all the seditious libells and orations, spued out
against our kings, & by these pentioners of *Castile*, pub-
lished vnder the title of a declaration, can no whit pre-
uaile with this baleant nobility, whose eares and harts
are stopped against such Mermaids as seeke to plunge
them in the goulfe of all misery. All these latter poli-
cies they take as assured arguments that the strength
of this detestable conspiracy draweth to decay. Your
selues doe now know that this busy and seditious com-
munitie is not able to vanquish the French nobility,
cannot beare the first push of their horses, neither may
any way abide the glims of their glistering armour.
What will yee then doe, seeke some meanes by faire
words to deuide these gallant gentlemen among them-
selues, and in a pitcht field procure them to cut each o-
thers throats. Oh what a happy day would that be
vnto you, wherein there should be neuer a blow stro-
ken in vaine: where the losse either of the one or the o-
ther should be an equall gaine, and like aduancement
of your drifts, which can haue no successe so long as
there be any gentlemen in *France*. They are borne to
liberty, to glory: They can brooke no forrein dominion
or commandement. Any speeches of the king of *Spaine*,
of the *Sauoyan*, or of the *Lorraines*, they cannot heare but
that needes they must enter into choller, into indig-
nation, into threats, yea and into armes to the end to
exalt the name and honour of *France* aboue all things
in the world. They cannot abide to heare any king but
their owne, intituled the great king, without ouer-
C running

running of those that dare giue out such seruile, Infamous and base speeches. They are not acquainted with this tytle *Uniuerfall king*, in whatsoeuer language it be disguised: They knowe not that ould tyrant otherwise then by the name of kinge of *Spaine*, which no man dare now pronounce in their presence for feare least at that onely worde they should call to mind that it is the name of their capitall enemye, the sworn enemye to their fathers, the same who wrongfully deteyneth from *France* the one halfe of her prouinces: who procured the death of his owne sonne, and of his wife the daughter of king *Henry* the second, and since holpe forward the deathes of his two brother in lawes, the late *Monsieur* and our last king. Likewise to the end yee may the better knowe him, he was son to *Charles* the fift, the poysoner of the french *Dolphine*: who by treasons stole y^e greatest riches of this realme: who layd the foundations of his tyranny on the citie of *Rome* which his sonne hath since perfectly established & layd fast, purchasing with coyne the voyce of the consistorie and so bringing into the holy sea his nurcelings and pentioners, according to the degrees of their affection to *Spayne*. Doe you then meruell that their bulles forged in *Madrit* which tooke only their edge at *Rome*, wherwith they indeuor to make *France* through her diuision, tributarie to them, haue beene condemned by this imperial and sacred Senate of our king. A senate gouerned by a *Cato*, replenished with *Phocions*, and euermore accustomed to reuenge the iniuries of the crowne.

The french nobility hath sent y^e *Marquize* of *Pizani*, to be assured of the truth. If it appeare that *Rome* is as surely tyed to the *Spaniard* as *Siwill*, and that their de-

cla

clarations can not be well enterprised, they will well enough provide remedies necessarie. This is not the first time that the holy sea hath beene transferred to this side of the mountes, albeit I be very well assured there shall be no such necessitie: For the French swoorde is strong enough yet once againe to Deliver Rome out of the hands of this *Gothik* and *Sarrazin* stocke. Neither doe we beleue that all that is beyond the Alpes doth loue this vniuersal king, but that contrariwise the clearer that their sight is naturally, the more they doe apprehend the effectes of his insupportable domination and the execution of the hereditarie purposes of his father *Charles*. This French Cath. Nobilitie is of force sufficiēt to preserve both the Estate and their Religion, neither neede they the helpe of these soueraignes of Spaine, of Sauoy, or of Lorraine so often mentioned in your declaration, who vnder pretence of succour do seeke to drive them out of the inheritance purchased with their ancestors blood, y^e like whereof haue happened almost to all the nations in the world, as histories do testifie. Our holy Cath. Romish Religiō is not otherwise assaulted but by your wretched League, which withall breedeth Atheisme, defloratiō of sacred virgins, murder of priests, sacking of Churches in all parts of the Realme: so farre is our king from bringing any alteration whatsoeuer, or from contrarying his oath euen in the least title, that contrariwise he is carefull of all that cōcerneth our Religion & the celebratiō of y^e holy misteries as our selues. witnesseth all the townes that he hath subdued vnder his obedience, in the which it can not be found that he hath diminished the least relick, or one onely sacred vessel. (yet the most part of yours is either moulten, or transported

ported into Arthois) Neither is there any one Religi-
ous person or Priest, that contained him selfe within his
habit and his profession, that was euer molested, euen
with the least word: whereas yours are either dead for
hunger, or withdraue into such towne as rest in his
Majesties obedience, where they haue bene receaued,
sustained & found acknowledging those things which
they could neuer haue imagined, and which your
falshoodes and slanders continually preached forth did
debarre them the sight of. Upon what occasion, ween
you hath God sent you these great afflictions, this want
of all things, especially of siluer, but euē to the end that
the people being by litle and litle slipped from you and
retired into such towne as rest in their kings obedi-
ence, should confesse their fault and simplicitie in that
they haue so long suffered them selues to be abused by
these enchantments, which made them see the things
that neuer were, that made them beleue that all the
Princes, all the Officers of the Crown, so many braue
Wordes and Gentlemen were no longer Catholickes,
because they would not stoope to the commandements
of this great Catholicke king, and the letters patents
of Charles of Lorraine. Is it not for this crime of heresie
that ye haue robbed and spoiled the house of Nevers, and
geuen the Dutchie of Rethelois to a Spartaque, whom ye
haue procured to take the title of Duke of Rethelois & Peer
of France? or haue ye so euill entreated this Duke of Ne-
uers at the expresse commandement of the king of Spaine,
who hateth him as much as any Prince vnder the earth,
because that hauing more deeply penetrated and more
manifestly reuealed to all France his pernicious pra-
ctises, to the end to stoppe and confound them vnder the
prote =

protection of our king, he dayly encreaseth in affection bringing of valour, couradge, diligence and militarie discretion so much as may be desired. And besides the matter which I account to fulnesse of all his commendations is this, & he bringeth vp his onely sonne, his Maiesties colin germain in extreame dislike and hatred of this Spanish League.

Must we not also as heretickes condemne, excommunicate and proscribe *Venise, Florence, Mantua, Soleure, Fribourg* and other Catholickes our faithfull confederates, who are so presumptuous as to dare to undertake to stoppe the encrease of your great kings Monarchie, who also will be partakers in the glorious reuendge of the murder of the first Prince of Christendome, whereto all Europe standeth bound: Beleue me this beautifull and glistering cloake of Religion, wherewith your ambitio hath bene so long shadowed is now threed bare, full of holes, we may see through it and euidently discern your wretched and pernicious purposes. Now that the incredible felicitie that had guided you euen to the marke, so as y^e were ready to mount vnto the flower Royall, hath forsaken you, whom thinke you to perswade to enter into your ship halfe broken, when it is vpon the point of shipwracke? Whom were you to perswade to come starue for hunger amog your sixtene robbers, who after the Spanish manner hung vp their chief Justice in the view of all Paris, in the middst of the confederates of the conspiracie of the haultier, whose dagger is at y^e throats of all those in whose harts there resteth any sparcke of humanitie or clemencie? to be brief, among so many fearefull tokens of Gods wrath, cruelties, diuisions, ruines, all sortes of desolations,

yea and diseases vtterly new and vnknown to the
French, of whom you are no longer. Now I say do you
now thinke to make such poisons to worke, conside-
ring that in August and September 89. when ye see-
med to haue atchieued your affaires, hauing murdered
our king, and with an armie of 30000. men enclosed
his successor in Dieppe, after you had published like
pardons, like abolitions, yet could you not in all finde
aboue three or foure remissionaries, and among them
but one onely Gentleman, whose name will remaine
infamous among all posteritie, vnlesse by some notable
seruice he wash away so shamefull a blot of treason co-
mitted immediatly after the slaughter of his king, his
good maister and one who had so highly fauored him.
Is it possible, Vitry that the tall, pale, and fearefull i-
mage of this great king, should not continually ap-
peare in thy sight or follow thee wheresoouer thou
goest? dost thou not see him with one hand houlding
his bloudie wound, and with the other the red gore
knife, continually following thee to be remendged of
thy notable trecherie? Is it possible that thou canst
without trebling and sighing heare him with a feare-
full voyce object vnto thee thy trespass in these wordes?
Oh traitor, while I liued thou diddest honor me, but
the next day after my death thou hast worshipped my
murderers: thou hast bowed thy knee in those places
where they deified that monster more cruell then the
Tygers: thou hast accompanied those that triumphed
and publickly reioyced in my death: yet doe I more
maruell how our Lieutenant general of the Spanish
croune in France, who seeth that in lieu of so many
Gentlemen that haue habandoned his rebellion and
ranged

ranged them selues vnder the flower de Luce, he could not winne past two or three in foure yeares, how I say he is now perswaded that he may deuide the Princes of the bloud of France, and draw them to his partie. Ambitious Lorraine, hast thou dared to thincke that thou shouldest haue such subiectes to stoope to thy commandementes, or to obey to thy letters patentes, as necessarily they must, if they had taken thy side? or wilt thou habandon to them thy Lieutenancie, and submit thy selfe vnder the lawes and Magistrats, ouer whom thou now doest so proudly commaund in those towne which thy tyrānie doth possesse? If thou wilt why hast thou not spoken the word? why hast thou not said that thou wert ready to lay away all thy power and to establish them aboue thy selfe, and aboue all thy stocke of Lorraine? Thou hast bene warie inough for proceeding so farre, not that thou art not assured that they all are too magnanimous & too vertuous Princes to League them selues with those that are yet besprinckled with the bloud of the slaughter of the eldest of their familie Royall, who loued them as his children: whose cruell and barbarous death all lawes of God and man doe binde them to reuendge, so long as their valiant soules shall be enclosed within their bodie: but by such offers, though fained, thou diddest feare to prouoke the ould tyrant of Spaine, who abhorreth the whole name of Bourbon. And indeede what apparance is there of diuision among persons so well vnited? you Lorrains haue long time directed the heades of your speares against the whole race of Bourbon, and with fire and sword doe prosecute y rooting out of their familie Royall: When fortune most smile d vpon you & that you seemed

med to be vpon the highest steppē to climbe to the Roy-
altie, then did they togith. r. resist you: And now that
all true Frenchmen vpon the opening of their eyes doe
manifestly discerne in your doittes with such dexteritie
conducted that whereas your grandfather came into
France weake in goodes, pooze in honor, naked in dig-
nitie, who in the yeare 1522. following the warres
in Picardie vnder the Duke of *Vandosme* commanded
onely ouer one companie of men of armes, you in our
adage finde your selues among you seized of the most
important governments of this Estate, yea and had it
not bene for the 23. of December 1588. had gone a-
way with the rule of all France, vnder the commande-
ments of your maister the king of Spaine. Now I say
that euery one that is of any calling or courage tho-
roughout this Realme, is gathered to his Maestie to
chastise your ambition, the cause of so many miseries,
what ground can ye take, to imagine that the Princes
of the bloud should deuide them selues, and purchase
the ruine and death each of other, to the end to leaue
their roome to the vpstartes of Lorraine? Well if you
cannot thrust in the spirite of diuision into Bourbon,
yet at the least ye will draw vnto you those mighty mē
who within these foure yeares, haue so often put you so
shamefully to flight. I thincke the Duke of Almale
looketh by meanes of this declaration, that this braue
and couragious *Logneville*, who with lesse then 1200.
Frenchmen, who standing not vpon th. ir number, but
vpon their valour in a pitcht field, ouerthrew him and
all his armie consisting of 8000. men and 10. canons
and pursued him euen to *S. Denis*, shall one of these
dayes send to offer him his seruice, desiring pardon for
his

his former faulces and craue to be reconciled with his
high and mightie cosin, Lieutenant generall to this
great king the Monarcke of Spaine, France and I-
talie. Oh miserable Leaguers, into what frensie are
ye entred, when ye thinke with your goodly figures of
Rhetoricke to perswade those, who in one moneth doe
heare more Masses then you do in a yeare: who vnder
the kings auctoritie next to the Princes of his bloud
are the very pillars of the state and of our Religion: to
perswade them I say, that they all are heretickes, and
that none but you onely, who are conspired with these
new Christiāns, as yet for the most part in hart Jewes
and Sarazins, are true Catholiques: to the end & ther-
fore they may yeeld themselves bound into your hāds,
so that without labour ye may in short time roote out
all these great and noble houses, all these families fatal
for expulsion of strangers out of France. No, no, if your
Spanish remembrances import no other matter, I do
well see that this oulde dotard is at an end with all his
fleights, sith & to subdue France to him selfe he craueth
the helpe of the French Gentlemē, who altogether vnder
one selfe banner leamed of Flower de Lucis, haue
so often chased his Spanish troupes, and who as bre-
thren of one belly, crowned with like garlands atchie-
ued in so many battailes, shall for euer be vnited to
maintaine their liberties, franchises and preeminences,
which with such woundes and so many hazards their
predecessors haue left vnto them inseparably conioyned
with the preservation of the crowne vpon the head of
the lawfull heire.

Courage therefore oh Frenchmē, the victory is yours,
Pavia is dead, Joyeuse and all his power are layd along,
D the

the *Lorraine* & the *Sauoyan* shut vp in their capital towngs in lieu of giuing doe craue succour at the Leaguers in France. The horrible conspiracy against *Rennes* is discovered, the traitors are punished, & the Duckats of such purchase of townges are conuerted to our vse. Behold *Montmorencie* marching with a braue army & the sword of France in his hand: let vs set on wth like courage, a power deuinded yeeldeth no fruit: let euery man endeuour him selfe: common interest craueth it & calleth you thereto: your countrey iudgeth you: all the baines of *Paris* are stopped, it must dye vp, vnlesse our selues will nourish the rebellion, that is, kindle the fire which consumeth this Estate. Let h^{e} king remember h^{e} throughout the whole triumph of *Silla* the fortunate, there was nothing made so goodly a shew as the traine of h^{e} most noble and rich of the Citie of *Rome*, returning through his victorie from exile whether h^{e} dregs of h^{e} people had driven the, & them crowned with garlands of flowers did accompany his triumphat chariot, calling him their father & saviour, because that by his meanes they returned into their countrey and recouered their goods, their wiues & their children. The top of so many good Frenchmen, who shall reenter into *Paris* will be no lesse and h^{e} honor infinite times greater, made firme and assured to a lawfull king.

Let the all the publicke treasure be employed to this effect: let euery one particularly let him selfe bloud to cure this burning feuer: let all these Jesuites speeches, the onely procurers of a milliō of Frenchmen to slay each other, be stopped: let all those that build their particular purposes vpon the publicke calamities (which they hope for hereafter) be rased from among the number of Frenchmen: let all those, who hauing no feeling of the grief of h^{e} body,

body, do not helpe to relieue it be cut of as rotte members
& the great goods that they enjoy with expresse charge
to succour þ state in such & so vrgēt necessities (a charge
by solēne oath renewed at euery change) be taken from
them & theselues declared vnworthy of nobilitie, & those
goodly inheritāces giue to those braue Gentlemen, who
for these foure yeares haue continually had the caryace
on their backs, without whose helpe together with þ
conduct of this great King, þ true French *Alexander*, we
all should be most miserable bondme to the Spaniard,
& this we must confesse: their names ought to be writte
in goldē letters & so consecrate to the posteritie, and the
names of þ others withered with perpetual ignominie
to them & all their posteritie. You Magistrates who in
your hands do hold the Justice of France, come in with
such vertue, with such courage, acknowledging þ affe-
ctionate & seuerely chastising the traitors & trechours
to their countrey, þ you may participate in the honor of
the restauratiō of the Estate. Armies can not be but in
certaine places, neither doe they terrifie any but those
whom they draw neare vnto: the force of Justice at one
selfe time penetrateth into all places, yea euen into the
most inaccessible: her scarres & woundes are farre more
sharpe & of longer continuance then those of *Bellona*. To
be brief, at this time let all those that list to liue and dye
Frenchmen, set their hands earnestly to this worke, so
excellent, & so necessarie for the reestablishment of this
great crown in her first eminencie & ancient glory. Let
vs no longer flatter the disease, & we shall soone see the
wound purged & cured, we shal speedely see þ end of all
these rebelles. We shall behold the chariot with the bo-
dy of our late king brought frō *Compiegne* euen into *Pa-*

by these rebells even in their shytes to the wounded
full consolation of all good men. You Syr whose me-
morie we moisten with our teares, appease your iust
wrath against this poore people, against your Citie of
Paris, sometime of you so welbeloued, so fauored, and so
enriched: she hath committed the most notable ingra-
titude & trecherie that euer was or shalbe in the world,
but already she hath felt such a punishment that the
scarres will remaine for euer; cast the rest of your in-
dignation of your iust vengeance vpon the guiltie, par-
don the innocent: Comfort your selfe in God hath giuen
you such a successor as after your decease will make you
to be acknowledged euen of all those, who in your life
time did disdain you: who in your Loure will restore
your defaced armes and garlands that were pulled
downe, and will exalte your memorie into the highest
degree of honor and glorie. Helpe vs also by your
prayers to obtaine for him at Gods hand so
long life, that after the ending of his
oboe he may accomplish the course
of your yeares that were cut of.

FINIS.



